



# Polymer Additive

**Additive for Non-Polymer-Enriched and Select Mortars**



## DESCRIPTION

MAPEI's *Polymer Additive* is an acrylic latex admixture used to enhance the performance of dry-set mortars as well as *Mosaic & Glass Tile Mortar*. This highly recommended admixture enhances bond strength, flexural strength and freeze/thaw durability.

## FEATURES AND BENEFITS (when used instead of water to mix with mortar)

- For mixing with MAPEI's *Floor Tile Mortar*, *Mosaic & Glass Tile Mortar*, *Uncoupling Membrane Mortar* or *Large-Format Floor Tile Mortar*
- Improves bond strength of mortar
- Enhances mortar performance and allows use with a wider range of tile and stone over additional substrates
- Good for most difficult-to-bond tiles and interior/exterior surfaces
- When a dry-set mortar is mixed with *Polymer Additive* rather than with water, the mixture is ideal for setting tile in areas subject to severe climate swings (ranging from high to below-freezing temperatures, and from dry to wet conditions).

## SUITABLE TILE OR STONE

- See the Technical Data Sheet (TDS) of the mortar being used for a complete listing of suitable tile and stone and recommended tile size.

## SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

- Concrete (cured at least 28 days)

- Masonry cement block, brick, cement mortar beds, render coats and leveling coats
- Cement backer units (CBUs) – See manufacturer's installation guidelines (interior only)
- APA Group 1 and CANPLY 0121 exterior-grade plywood (interior, residential and light-commercial floors and countertops in dry conditions only)
- See the TDS of the mortar being used for a complete listing of suitable substrates.

## WHERE TO USE

- Mix with *Floor Tile Mortar* to install tile on cement board and plywood.
- Mix with *Mosaic & Glass Tile Mortar* to install submerged tile.
- Mix with *Uncoupling Membrane Mortar* to install porcelain tile.
- Mix with *Large-Format Floor Tile Mortar* to install on MAPEI waterproofing, crack-isolation, sound-reduction and uncoupling membranes.
- See the TDS of the mortar being used for details about where to use.

## LIMITATIONS

- Install only at temperatures between 40°F and 95°F (4°C and 35°C).
- Do not use for moisture-sensitive stone (green marble; some limestone and granite), agglomerate tiles or resin-backed tiles. Instead, use suitable epoxy or urethane adhesives (see respective TDSs for details).
- For light-colored and translucent natural stone, a white mortar is recommended.



- Do not use over dimensionally unstable substrates such as hardwood flooring, oriented strand board (OSB), substrates containing asbestos, or metal.
- To use directly over gypsum-based patching or leveling substrates, apply a suitable sealer/primer before use. See the technical bulletin "Tiling over gypsum" in the Related Documents section of the Tile & Stone Installation Systems page on MAPEI's Website.
- Do not dilute with any other liquids.
- Do not freeze.
- See the TDS of the mortar being used for additional information.

## **SURFACE PREPARATION**

- All substrates should be structurally sound, stable, dry, clean, and free of any substance or condition that may reduce or prevent proper adhesion.
- See the "Surface preparation requirements" reference guide in the Related Documents section of the Tile & Stone Installation Systems page on MAPEI's Website.

## **MIXING**

Before product use, take appropriate safety precautions. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for details.

1. Always use a clean mixing container.
2. Shake the *Polymer Additive* container well before use.
3. See the respective TDS for the mortar being used for detailed mixing instructions.

## **PRODUCT APPLICATION**

See the respective mortar's TDS for detailed instructions.

## **EXPANSION AND CONTROL JOINTS**

- Provide for expansion and control joints as specified per TCNA Method EJ171 or TTMAC Specification Guide 09 30 00, Detail 301MJ. Do not cover expansion joints with mortar.

## **PROTECTION**

- Protect from traffic for 24 to 48 hours, so that the mortar is sufficiently set.
- Protect the installation from rain for 72 hours, and from freezing for 21 days.
- See the TDS of the mortar being used for additional information.

## **CLEANUP**

- Clean tools and tile while the mortar is fresh using only water.

---

### Product Performance Properties

See the TDS of the mortar being used for performance data.

---

### Shelf Life and Product Characteristics before mixing

Shelf life	2 years when stored in original, unopened packaging at 73°F (23°C)
Physical state	Liquid latex
VOCs (Rule #1168 of California's SCAQMD)	0 g per L

Protect containers from freezing in transit and storage. Provide for heated storage on site and deliver all materials at least 24 hours before work begins.

### Packaging

Size
Jug: 2 U.S. gals. (7.57 L)

# Polymer Additive



## RELATED DOCUMENTS

Reference guide: "Surface preparation requirements" for tile and stone installation systems\*

Technical bulletin: "Tiling over gypsum"\*

Technical bulletin: "Installing large-format, opaque glass tiles"\*

\* At [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com)

Refer to the SDS for specific data related to health and safety as well as product handling.

For information on MAPEI's commitment to sustainability and transparency, as well as how MAPEI meets the health and well-being requirements of product certification programs, contact the MAPEI Sustainability Team at 1-800-992-6273.

## LEGAL NOTICE

The contents of this Technical Data Sheet ("TDS") may be copied into another project-related document, but the resulting document shall not supplement or replace requirements per the TDS in effect at the time of the MAPEI product installation. For the most up-to-date TDS and warranty information, please visit our website at

[www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com). **ANY ALTERATIONS TO THE WORDING OR REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN OR DERIVED FROM THIS TDS SHALL VOID ALL RELATED MAPEI WARRANTIES.**

Before using, the user must determine the suitability of our products for the intended use,

and the user alone assumes all risks and liability. **ANY CLAIM SHALL BE DEEMED WAIVED UNLESS MADE IN WRITING TO US WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE IT WAS, OR REASONABLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN, DISCOVERED.**

We proudly support the following industry organizations:



### MAPEI Headquarters of North America

1144 East Newport Center Drive  
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442  
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) /  
(954) 246-8888

### Technical Services

1-800-992-6273 (U.S. and Puerto Rico)  
1-800-361-9309 (Canada)

### Customer Service

1-800-42-MAPEI (1-800-426-2734)

### Services in Mexico

0-1-800-MX-MAPEI (0-1-800-696-2734)

**Edition Date:** October 3, 2019

MK 3000192 (19-2416)

For the most current BEST-BACKED™ product data and warranty information, visit [www.mapei.com](http://www.mapei.com).

All Rights Reserved. © 2019 MAPEI Corporation.